

Zn-based Batteries

Sanjoy Banerjee

Executive Chairman
Urban Electric Power, Inc.
Pearl River, New York
Sanjoy@urbanelectricpower.com

CUNY Distinguished Professor,
Director, The Energy Institute
The City College of New York
Banerjee@ccny.cuny.edu

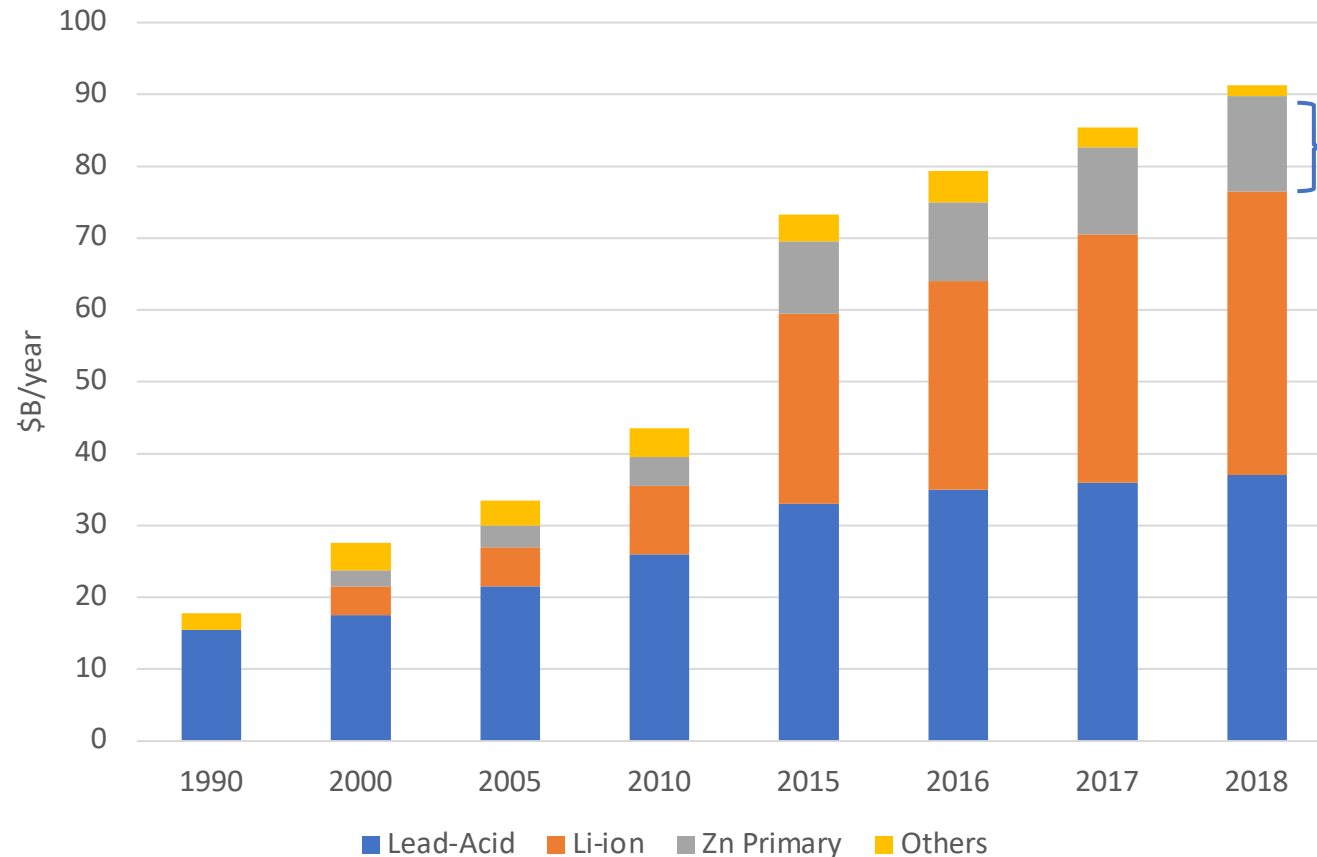
Long Duration Energy Storage Workshop: Battery Storage

March 9-10, 2021

Long Duration Energy Storage Workshop: Battery Storage Panel

Zn-based Batteries

**Zinc already provides long-duration storage in the form of primary cells:
sales of \$13B/year**



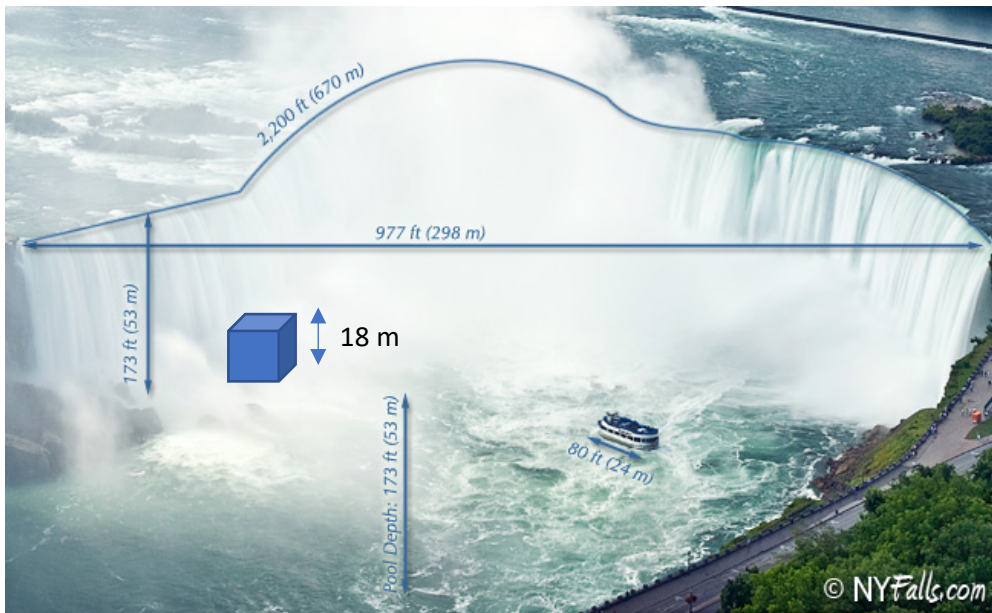
Where are we today?

- Zn Primary cell sales ~ \$13B/yr growing
- Li-ion sales ~\$40B/yr growing
- Lead-Acid sales ~\$38B/yr stable
- Other battery sales (NiCd, NiMH, Flow batteries, NAS, ...) ~\$1.5B/yr decreasing

Why Zn for Electrochemical Energy Storage?

(theoretical capacity assumed for metal-air cells)

Electricity generated by Niagara Falls:
60,000 MWh/day

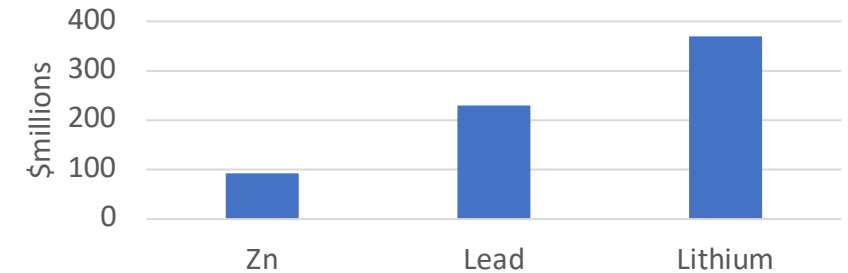


Inexpensive

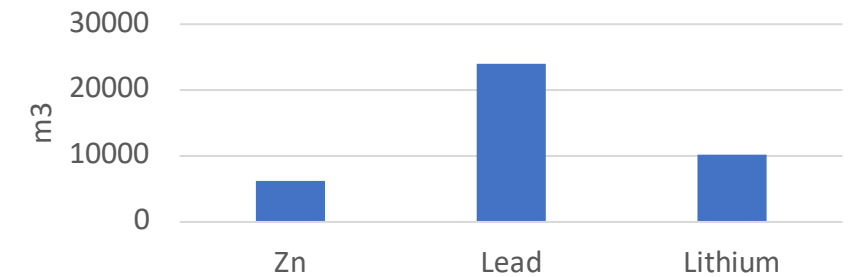
Energy dense

Low GHG Emissions

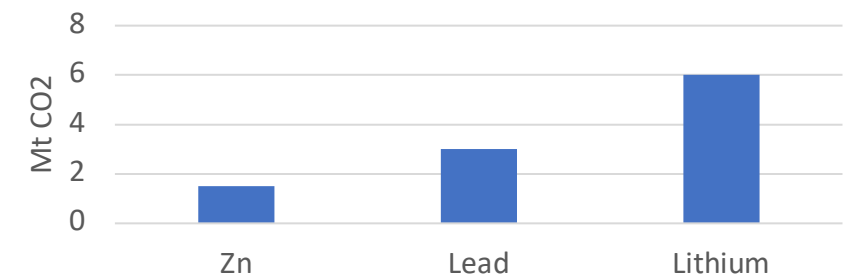
Materials cost to store the electricity generated by Niagara Falls/day



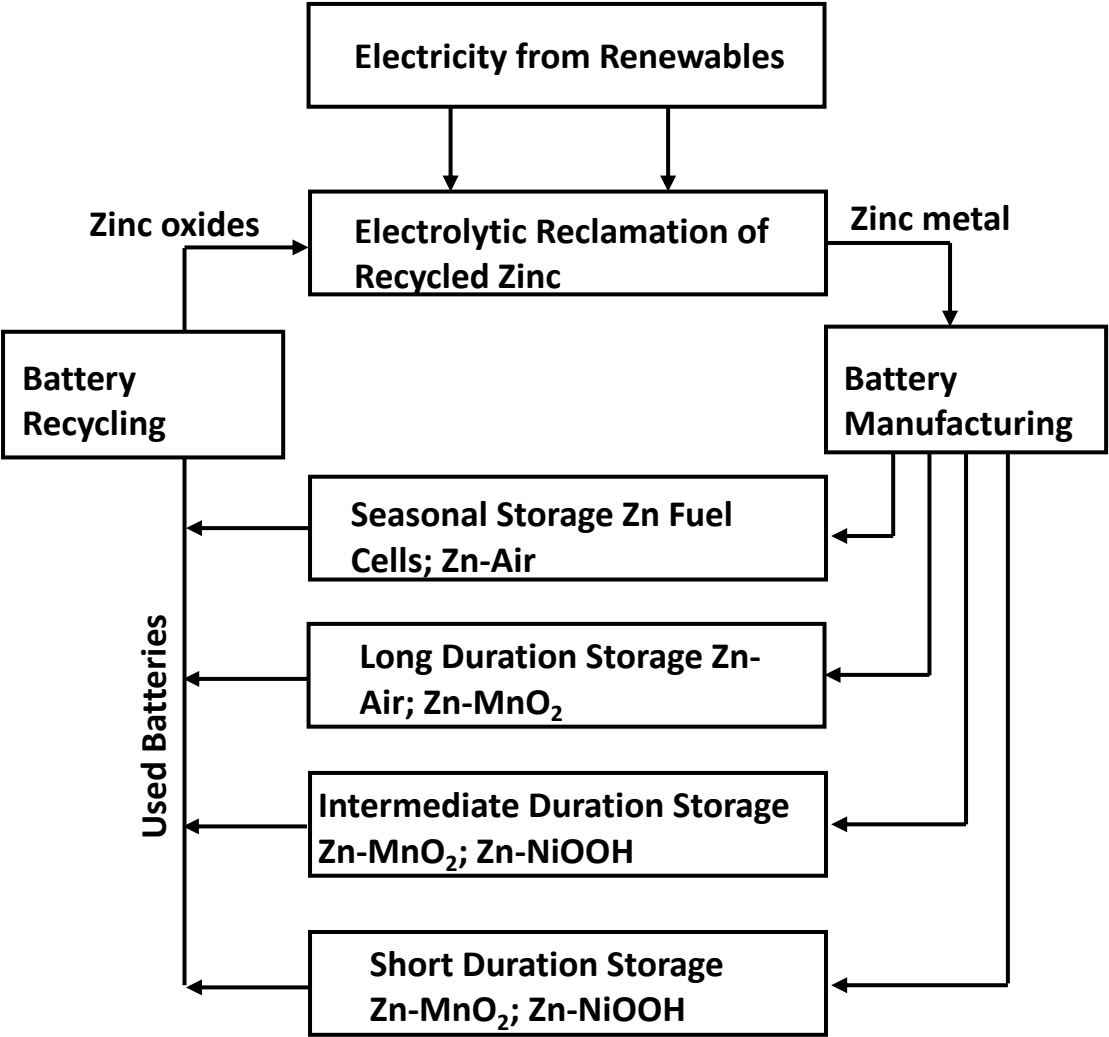
Metal volume to store the electricity generated by Niagara Falls/day



GHG emissions from battery production to store electricity from Niagara Falls/day



The Zinc Cycle: Can Serve Multiple Duration Time Scales



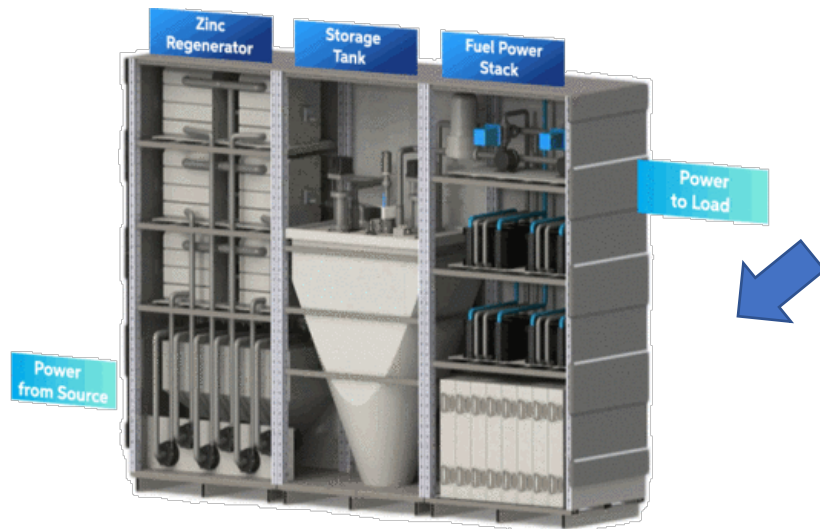
	Time Scales	Battery	RTE	Cycles
Seasonal	Years → Months	Zn-Air	70%	Tens
Long duration	Months → Days	Zn-Air, Zn-MnO ₂	70%, 76%	Hundreds
Intermediate duration	Days → Hours	Zn-MnO ₂ , Zn-Ni	76%, 96%	Thousands
Short duration	Hours → Minutes	Zn-MnO ₂ , Zn-Ni	76%, 96%	Tens of thousands

Zinc Cycle Components

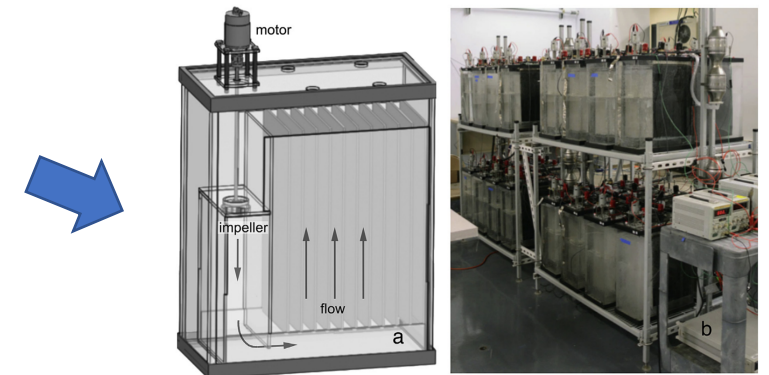
Zinc Reclamation Plant



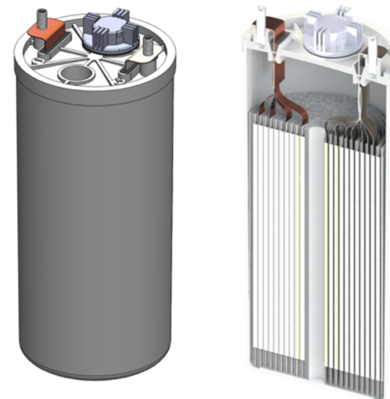
Zn-Air Battery:
Seasonal and long duration storage



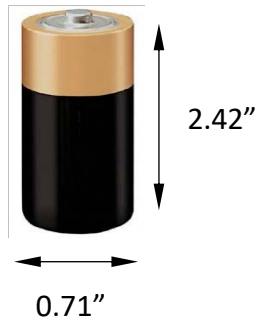
Zn-Ni Battery:
Intermediate and short duration storage



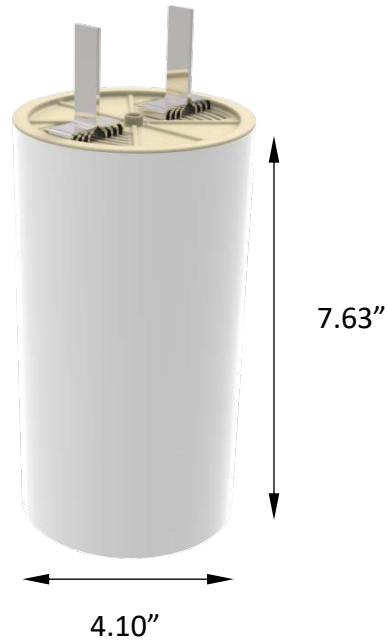
Zn-MnO₂ Battery:
From long duration
to short duration storage



UEP Cell for Long Duration Energy Storage



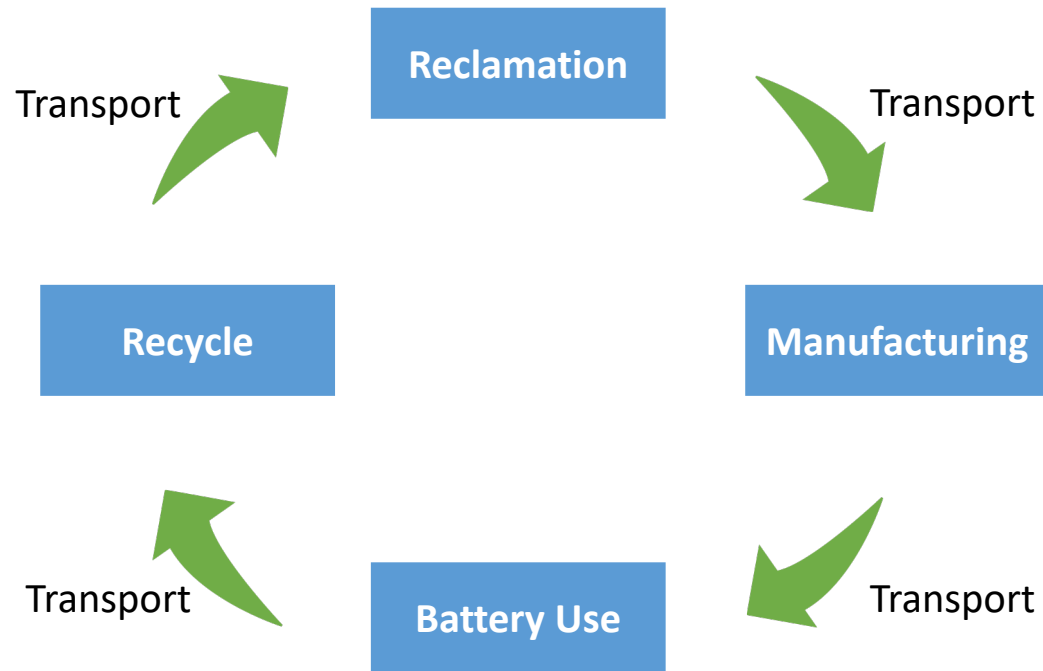
Alkaline Primary D Cell



UEP Gen 1 Rechargeable Cell

	D Cell	UEP Gen 1 Cell
Capacity (140-hour discharge) / Ah	14	350
Volume / mL	56	1600
Weight / kg	0.14	3.6
Average discharge voltage / V	1.25	1.3

Zinc Cycle Development Challenges



Reclamation:

- Improving RTE of Zinc reclamation process from lower RTE acid process to higher RTE alkaline process

Manufacturing:

- Designing batteries to facilitate recycle of anode and cathode materials.

Battery technology:

- Developing low-cost, high cycle life air cathodes.
- Developing long-life ion selective separators for zinc batteries
- Improving cycle life of high DOD zinc anodes
- Developing high voltage aqueous zinc batteries: dual electrolyte, and/or water-in-salt electrolytes(WISE)

Recycle:

- Improving material separation and reducing energy use.